

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Education Professional Standards Board
COPY: EPSB Education Partners
EPSB Staff
FROM: Phillip S. Rogers, Executive Director
DATE: March 5, 2009
SUBJECT: March 2009 EPSB Update

Mission Statement

The Education Professional Standards Board, in full collaboration and cooperation with its education partners, promotes high levels of student achievement by establishing and enforcing rigorous professional standards for preparation, certification, and responsible and ethical behavior of all professional educators in Kentucky

Worth Remembering

“The object of education is to prepare the young to educate themselves throughout their lives.”

-- Robert M. Hutchins

March 16 EPSB Meeting Cancelled

During the special called meeting of the EPSB on March 2 the board voted to cancel its scheduled March 16 meeting. The next regular meeting of the EPSB will be at 9:00 a.m. (EDT) on May 18 at the EPSB office.

Regulations Update

[16 KAR 6:010](#), the EPSB’s assessment regulation, was reviewed by the Administrative Regulation Review Subcommittee (ARRS) on February 9. At the November 2008 meeting, the EPSB approved several amendments to the regulation, including requiring the new IECE test developed by ETS with EPSB input. The ARRS members did not have any questions regarding the regulation amendments and passed the regulation out of committee while adopting several minor technical amendments suggested by LRC staff.

New Teacher Survey

New teachers/student teachers and their mentors may be contacted to participate in a pilot of the newly designed New Teacher Survey (NTS). The purpose of the pilot is to determine whether the survey allows for an effective collection of meaningful data for each indicator of the Kentucky Teacher Standards. We hope to implement the new and improved NTS this next school year.

2009 National Board Teacher Day

EPSB staff worked with the legislature to host a recognition ceremony on March 3 for more than 135 of the 230 new Kentucky National Board Certified Teachers and their principals, superintendents, and friends. With more than 200 in attendance at the Capitol Rotunda, photos were taken with Governor Beshear and he signed a proclamation declaring March 3, 2009, as

National Board Teacher Day in Kentucky. The event also featured remarks from Secretary Helen Mountjoy, Commissioner Elaine Farris, and many Kentucky legislators who are friends of NBCTs in Kentucky.

Immediately following the ceremonies, a reception hosted by EPSB, KANBCT, KEA, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, and WKU was held on the Capitol Mezzanine to recognize the accomplishments of Kentucky's new NBCTs. The special day closed with legislative citations issued to each educator and recognition on the floor by both chambers of the General Assembly.

Certification Reference Guide Goes On-Line

The Division of Certification has moved the Certification Reference Guide to an on-line application this year, as opposed to printing and mailing the document as has been done in the past. This guide, accessible to superintendents, human resources officers, and university certification officers (if requested), is revised every two years in January. It lists present and past certification codes and their appropriate applications among the various grade levels. By placing this guide on the EPSB website, the agency will save approximately \$1500, and the guide will be easily accessible to district personnel who are new to the HR position during the upcoming years.

2008 Fall LEAD Statistics

The 2008 fall EPSB Local Educator Assignment Data (LEAD) report reflects that out of 670,487 classroom assignments for certified teachers, 99.96% hold an appropriate certificate for the grade range, content and student population they are teaching.

Certification Moves to On-Line Speed Messages

When certification consultants work individual cases, they often must send letters, known as "speed messages," to educators requesting additional information to complete the case. Thanks to the efforts of the EPSB Technology Branch, these messages are now being sent via e-mail. This move will result in much more timely communication with our educators, and it will allow for an immediate response from the educator, if appropriate. In addition, the agency will save in postage and printing of these messages, which should be a significant benefit in the thousands of dollars.

News Article Planned for Kentucky Teacher

Mike Carr has submitted an article to *Kentucky Teacher*, the KDE publication for all of the state's active educators, which should be published in the April or May edition of the newspaper. The article is designed to provide tips in the renewal of certifications, which is a hot topic each spring. It is hoped that by providing educators of the basics of the renewal and rank change process, misunderstandings can be avoided during the upcoming busy season, and the process will be a smooth one for all teachers and administrators.

Spring LEAD Deadline Extended; HQ Report Due March 31

To aid the many Kentucky districts affected by this winter's bad weather, the deadline for submitting the spring LEAD report has been extended to March 14 for those districts affected by the storms. The LEAD data are also used by school principals to complete the annual Highly Qualified Teacher report during March. Because the HQ report may be completed relatively quickly by principals, that deadline has not been extended past March 31. This will still leave

principals over two weeks to review their school data and check the HQ status of each teacher, which is easily determined in most cases.

Troops to Teachers Update

Our new coordinator, Wayne Eccles, has been working with districts to consider Troops to Teachers (TTT) applicants for future teaching positions. Former military members bring a wealth of experience, talent, intelligence, knowledge, energy, and maturity into the classroom. Many have been instructors in the military and have excellent pedagogical skills. Almost all have been responsible for teaching and training groups of young people, and they serve as positive role models. Wayne will be sharing his updated list of applicants with district human resources directors later this spring. Wayne can be contacted at 888-598-7667 or via email at kyttt@ky.gov.

Congratulations to Gary Stephens

For the second year in a row, Gary Stephens in our Legal Division has won the Kentucky Bar Association's Continuing Legal Education Award. Gary has taken over sixty hours of continuing legal education classes in the last three years.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowling for Kids' Sake

EPSB staff members are gearing up and securing sponsors for the 2009 Bowl for Kids' Sake to benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of the Bluegrass. EPSB teams will bowl on Friday, March 6 at 2:00. The teams are getting ready to go, and EPSB staff members are looking forward to once again supporting the Big Brothers and Big Sisters by bowling for kids. Although not everyone will serve as a Big Brother or Sister, we can all support those who do volunteer. Our goal is to meet the \$1,300 we raised last year to help make a difference in the lives of many Kentucky children. Many at EPSB have offered to support those of us who bowl by being there in spirit with financial support, cheers, and laughter.

Meetings, Conferences, Etc.

March 1 – EPSB Sunday evening study session
March 2 – EPSB special called meeting
March 3 – SE/SC Education Cooperative meeting
March 3 – NBPTS Recognition Day at the Capitol
March 3 – House Education Committee meeting
March 3 – Governor's Prayer Breakfast
March 4 – Ethics seminar at Thomas More College
March 4 – GRREC meeting
March 4/5 – KBE meeting
March 5 – Senate Education Committee meeting
March 5/6 – KACTE spring conference
March 6 – Bowl for Kids
March 10 – House Education Committee meeting
March 10 – EPSB staff leadership meeting
March 11 – NKCES meeting
March 11 – Ethics seminar at Centre College
March 13 – CCSLP meeting
March 13 – Accreditation Audit Committee

March 13 – 5th Annual Kentucky Literacy Research Symposium
March 17 – KTN Job Fair at ECU
March 18 – KEDC meeting
March 19 – Gifted and Talented Advisory Committee
March 19 – Distance Learning Steering Committee meeting
March 20 – Phil to visit Bobbie Stoess at Crestwood Elementary
March 25 – WKEC meeting
March 25 – OVEC meeting
March 26 – Leadership Continuum Group meeting
March 26 – Redesigned Master's Degree Review Committee meeting
March 27 – Sine Die (Legislature adjourns)

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